

**Journey Through the Bible: Revelation**

Session 27: Nimrod and the Song of Praise (Ch. 15)

Remember Acts 17:11

Explainer from Previous Session:

The Signs of Ch. 14

- Ch. 14 Includes Literal (Named) Elements
  - o The Lamb (Christ), 144K, Angels, Babylon
- How Far do we Overcomplicate?
  - o Everything Symbolic?
  - o Everything Parabolic? (Truths Disguised)  
(Ref. Mt. 13:11-13)
  - o Everything Literal?
  - o What are the Prophetic Truths?
- Includes Symbolic Imagery
  - o 144K as Virgins (Righteous Before God)
  - o Harvest of Wrath from the Earth
  - o The Wine of Wrath Flowing Over Israel
- Truths from the Imagery
  - o The Triumphant Return of the Remnant
  - o The Reconciliation of the Faithful to Christ
  - o The Justice of God Upon Israel’s Persecutors
  - o The Wrath of God Upon the Unfaithful

The Symbolic Significance of Babylon:

- A City of Organized Rebellion Against God (Gen. 11)
- A Global Empire with a Central Ruler (Gen. 10:8-12)
- A Military Force Against the People of God  
(II Kgs. 24-25)
- Birthplace and Spread of Paganism (Rev. 17:4-6)

The Question of Babylon:

- Roman Catholics Claim Babylon is Code for Rome to Justify Peter as the 1<sup>st</sup> Pope
  - o After State-Religion (Amillennialism)
- Anti-Catholic Protestants Claim Babylon is Code for Rome to Vilify the Roman Catholic Denomination
- Resulting Distractions:
  - o Potential Return of Babylon (No “like” or “as”)
  - o Interpreted Lapse of Faith in Peter
  - o Inclusion of a Deliberate Falsehood in Scripture

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The Historic Babylon:

- Conquered but Never Completely Destroyed
  - o Severely Damaged and Rebuild by the Assyrians (609-539BC)
- Presently Abandoned (900's AD)
- Near Hilla, Iraq (20 Mi. South of Bagdad)
- Bricks Used to Build Bagdad and Basra.

Declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site (2019)

The Promised Judgement of Babylon:

- Overthrown as Sodom and Gomorrah (Isa. 13:19)
- Completely Destroyed and Desolated (Isa. 13:20-22)
- "Fallen... Fallen" gods are shattered (Isa. 21:9)
- The Armies of God will Empty (Jer. 50:26)
- The Lord will Destroy and Silence (Jer. 51:11&55)
- The Assyrians will be Conquered by Christ (Micah 5)

After the Order of Nimrod (Ref. Gen. 10:8-10):

נְמֹרָד (Nim'rOd) Lit: Rebellion (OBU)

פְּנִים (p'A nE'm) Lit: In the Face of... (Strong's)

Nimrod persuaded mankind not to ascribe their happiness to God, but to think that his own excellency was the source of it. And he soon changed things into a tyranny, thinking that there was no other way to wean men from the fear of God, than by making them to rely upon his power.

-Josephus. *Antiquity of the Jews*. I.4.2

He was powerful in hunting and in wickedness before the Lord for he was a hunter of the sons of men, and he said to them, "Depart from the judgement of the Lord, and adhere to the judgement of Nimrod!" There is it said, "As Nimrod is the strong one, strong in hunting, and in wickedness before the Lord."

-*Jerusalem Targum*

- Establishes a Rule of Creation vs. Creator
- Ruler who Sets Himself as a God (Object of Worship)
- Develops a Mythology Around Himself
- Oppressor of the Faithful
- Guilty of Religious Genocide

A New Sign (v. 1-2):

- “Sign” (Linked with “Small Scroll” Visions)
  - o Chs. 11-14
- “Wrath” Symbolized by Wine/Vinegar (Cf. Mt. 26:39; 27:33-34)
- “Like” Sea of Glass & Fire
  - o Judgement & Cleansing
- Victorious Standing on it
  - o Possess Faith & Righteousness
- Those who were victorious (144K) with Harps
  - o Harps of (in the service of) God
  - o Note: Prior to their sealing were viewed by the world as outcasts.
- Victorious Against the Beast & Servants

νικάω (nik-a’O): to subdue (literally or figuratively):—  
conquer, overcome, prevail, get the victory.  
(Strong’s)

εἰκών (I’kon): The image of one: <sup>1</sup>in whom the likeness of any one is seen or <sup>2</sup>applied to man on account of his power of command (OBU)

- King of (Nations, Ages, Saints)
  - o Some Manuscripts: Ethnos(MGNT)/Hagios(TR)  
Ref. Jer. 10:40; I Tim. 1:17

The Song of Praise (v. 3-4):

- Concluding Verse Tying to Two Together
- Song of Moses (Ex. 15:1-21; Deut. 32:1-43)
  - o Sung After the Escape from Egypt (Red Sea)
- Song of the Lamb Rev. 5:9-12
- The Fulfilling of the Old and New Covenants  
Cf. v. 5
- All Praise Given to God/None Reserved

The Opening of the Sanctuary (v. 5-8):

- Sanctuary and Tabernacle (Divine Copy of the Covenants)
- Angelic Soldiers 7 Plagues (Bowls of Wrath)
  - o White Linen (Priestly Garment)
  - o Golden Sash (Ambassadorship)
  - o Sourced from Conquest of Zion: Ref. Ch. 14

